

# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Preformatted areas in at least the most distal recording layer from an object lens among a plurality of recording layers in an optical disc include guard areas at both ends of the  
5 respective recording layer in the tracing direction. No data is recorded on the guard areas. The guard area length GL is determined to satisfy the following formula:

$$GL \geq YL + T \times (NA/n)/[1 - (NA/n)^2]^{1/2}$$

where YL is a maximum allowable value of position deviation  
10 between the preformatted areas in the most distal recording layer and in another recording layer in the tracing direction; NA is the numerical aperture of the object lens; T is a distance between the most distal and the another recording layer; and  
"n" is an refraction index of a medium between the most distal  
15 and the another recording layers.